

Communication Theory Technical Committee (CTTC)
ICC 2007
Tuesday, June 26, 2007

DETAILED MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM
Michael Rice, Vice-Chair, conducting

Introductions were skipped in the interest of time.

1) Conference Symposia Reports

1-a) ICC 2007 (M. Uysal), 79 out of 191 papers were accepted (41.4%), the cutoff threshold was 3.4/5.0. There were 10 oral sessions and one poster session. There was a best paper award for the first time; it was a unanimous choice: M. Yuksel and E. Erkip, "Diversity-Multiplexing Tradeoff in Half-Duplex Relay Systems."

1-b) Globecom 2007 (prepared by S. Ulukus, given by M. Rice), 61 members of the TPC. Will accept 80 out of 208 papers. The review process was different this time. Each paper was assigned to multiple TPC members, each TPC member was responsible for getting one review for the paper.

1-c) ICC 2008 (N. Beaulieu), papers and tutorials are due Sept 15, notification of acceptance will be Jan 10, final papers due Feb 28. Entire conference is expecting 3000 submissions, will accept 1100. Registration will be \$800 (full), \$600 (limited), and \$290 (student), all in USD (this prompted a brief discussion on the high registration costs here at ICC'07). There are 83 TPC members due to an early and proactive recruiting process, a good mix of senior and junior persons. It was pointed out that there were no speakers breakfast here at ICC'07, and no shuttle to/from the outlying hotels. The breakfast will be discussed for ICC'08, and shuttle is non-issue since all hotels are co-located. M. Rice asked how new TPC review process was working, N. Beaulieu said it seemed to be working fine.

1-d) Globecom 2008, no report given.

2) CTW Reports

2-a) CTW 2007 (M. Rice), it was a good program and all speakers showed, the venue was nice also.

2-b) CTW 2008 (prepared by R. Heath, given by M. Rice) the venue will be St. Croix US Virgin Islands, 4 - 7 May 2008.

- No Visa is required for travel to/from USVI for US citizens.
- the workshop dates are at the end of the high-priced peak tourist season and just before hurricane season.
- Venue is The Diva Carina Bay which is reasonably priced with beach, pools, tennis courts, shops, etc. Wireless internet is available in the lobby.
- Room prices will be \$140.00 US (subject to IEEE negotiation).
- The technical program will feature 5 half-day sessions with 35 invited speakers. There will be a "hot topics" poster session featuring papers received from an open call.
- The committee:
 - General Chair: Robert Heath (Univ. Texas)
 - Technical Program Co-Chairs: Randy Berry (Northwestern)
Akbar Sayeed (Univ. Wisconsin)
 - Finance Chair: Dongning Guo (Northwestern)
 - Fundraising Chair: Jeff Andrews (Univ. Texas)
 - Poster Co-Chairs: Nihar Jindal (Univ. Minnesota)
Martin Haenggi (Notre Dame)

3) Other Business

3-a) There were no nominations for the CT Service Award, so no award was given this time. Members were encouraged to visit the CTTC web page for instructions on the nomination procedure. It is up to this committee to make nominations, a simple e-mail to the current officers will suffice as a start to the process.

3-b) CTW 2009 is about 20-23 months away. Volunteers are needed for General Chair, Tech. Chair, and for local arrangements. E-mail a short proposal for venue and key chair positions. According to the pattern, the venue would be in the Western US, but other proposals will be considered.

3-c) Discussion topic: What can we do to address the issue of 80% overlap between Comm. Theory (CTS), Wireless Communication (WCS), and Signal Processing (SPS) Symposia?

- Idea: make the Call for Papers more specific, so that authors better understand the differences between the three symposia. To that end, the committee were asked to review descriptive paragraphs for the three.

Wireless Communications Symposium

The Wireless Communications Symposium welcomes papers dealing with system-level aspects of the topics listed below. Of special interest are papers reporting on novel and practical solutions to physical and cross-layer design in wireless communication systems, field tests and measurements, and applications.

Signal Processing Symposium

The Signal Processing Symposium welcomes papers dealing with the algorithmic and implementation aspects within the topics listed below. Of special interest are implementations of physical layer algorithms and an analysis of their performance.

Communication Theory Symposium

The Communication Theory Symposium welcomes papers dealing with fundamental problems associated with the topics listed below. Of special interest are papers describing the use of information theory and communication theory to solve these problems.

Changes were suggested for the Comm Theory Symposium to read as follows:

Communication Theory Symposium

The Communication Theory Symposium welcomes papers dealing with fundamental problems associated with the topics listed below. Of special interest are papers describing the novel use of communication theory and/or information theory to solve these problems.

- Idea: we could get rid of the symposia model, or at least blur the lines between them. This was agreed as a bad idea since the entire conference would be unmanageable.
- Idea: have more coordination between the three TPCs. For example, a MIMO subgroup could control where the papers end up.
- Idea: Call for papers would state that papers may be transferred to the most appropriate symposium, authors would be notified via e-mail and have option to withdraw paper.
- Idea: Allow authors to pick 1st and 2nd choices for symposium at the time of submission, this would aid TPCs in possible paper transfers.
- Point raised: authors often pick a symposium based on improving the papers' chances of being accepted. It is generally agreed that CTS has the highest-quality papers.
- Point raised (N. Beaulieu): WCS, for example, might not want to give up papers, but might rather keep the papers and have more TPC members transferred instead.
- Point raised (D. Goeckel): Speaking for Globecom 2008 WCS, transferring papers would be OK.
- Point raised: TPCs should not be struggling to recruit enough members. If we are submitting papers to the conferences, then we should be willing to serve on TPCs.

Minutes taken by Erik Perrins
Attendance: 28
Adjourned at 7:00 PM